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DELAINE EASTIN

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

May 25, 2001

Dear County and District Superintendents:

HEALTHY SCHOOLS ACT OF 2000 (Assembly Bill 2260)

The Healthy Schools Act of 2000 (Assembly Bill 2260) became effective January 1, 2001. It codifies the Department of Pesticide Regulation's (DPR) existing voluntary School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program, and adds new requirements to Education Code sections 17608-17613 regarding pesticides. The new provisions pertain to notification, posting, and record keeping requirements for schools. In addition, Food and Agricultural Code sections 13180-13188 include new requirements pertaining to enhanced pesticide use reporting for licensed pest control businesses.

The new laws require each school district annually to provide to all staff and parents or guardians of pupils enrolled at a school written notification addressing (among other things) expected pesticide use. The laws also require each school district to post warning signs prior to the application of pesticides at a school site. I encourage you to become familiar with the new laws and to comply with the new requirements.

Each school district is required to appoint a "school designee," also known as the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Coordinator. The IPM Coordinator is responsible for carrying out the requirements of Assembly Bill 2260 at the schools within their district. Typically an IPM Coordinator would be the director of maintenance and operations, and would train staff regarding IPM practices. Because IPM also includes sanitation measures, the IPM Coordinator will deal with more than pesticide applications.

Please identify your school district IPM Coordinator and notify the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) by June 8, 2001. You may contact Dr. Nita Davidson at DPR by telephone at (916) 324-4272, by e-mail at (school_ipm@empm.cdpr.ca.gov) or in writing at DPR, Pest Management and Licensing Branch, P.O. Box 4015, Sacramento, CA 95812-4015.

DPR has posted information about its School IPM Program and the Healthy Schools Act of 2000 (Assembly Bill 2260) on its home page. See DPR's website, www.cdpr.ca.gov, and click on the School IPM link. DPR provides this information to assist school districts with the requirements of Assembly Bill 2260, and to provide parents and others general information about these activities. The DPR site is also linked to the California Department of Education (CDE), School Facilities Planning Division (SFPD) website.

DPR's website includes a program overview; a summary of pest management policies, programs, and practices in selected California public school districts; a sample information sheet about Assembly Bill 2260; a sample letter explaining written notification about expected pesticide use and

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registry; sample annual notification of pesticide use; a sample notice for specific pesticide application; and a sample pesticide application sign for a posting. You may download any of these sample documents.

DPR's website also provides other useful information, such as links to DPR's Registration Branch Chemical Ingredients database; links to other web pages with information about school IPM program, policies, and IPM practices; and links to Material Safety Data Sheets for specific pesticides. DPR plans to continually update and improve the school IPM resources provided on its website.

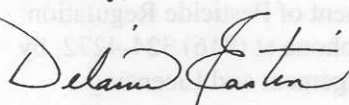
You may request a copy of these documents in writing from the mailing address shown on the previous page for the DPR Pest Management and Licensing Branch. If you have questions or would like further information about this program, please contact Dr. Davidson at DPR at (916) 324-4100. If you have any questions for CDE please contact Tony Hesch, School Facilities Planning Division at (916) 445-8002. General pesticide safety questions should be directed to your local County Agricultural Commissioner's office.

The following documents are enclosed:

1. AB 2260
2. DPR overview of school IPM Program
3. DPR School IPM Program website information
4. DPR sample information sheet for parents
5. DPR sample annual written notification letter to parents or guardians
6. DPR sample specific pesticide application and notice to parents or guardians
7. DPR sample pesticide application sign for posting.

Thank you for helping make our schools safer for students, staff, and visitors.

Sincerely,



DELAINE EASTIN
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

DE:dbb

cc: Nita Davidson, DPR
School District Business Managers

Enclosures